

Claims 1-25 (Cancelled)

Claim 26. (Currently amended) A method of treating a human patient for a cancer disease state normally associated with possession of a mutant protein of the p53 family that can be treated by increasing the activity of one or more proteins of the p53 family in cells affected by said cancer disease state, comprising the steps of:

- (a) administering to said patient an effective amount of an organic non-peptide compound that binds, in said cells, to one or more domains of one or more of the patient's proteins of the p53 family, and stabilizes a functional conformation of said proteins under physiological conditions; and,
- (b) permitting said stabilized protein to interact with one or more macromolecules that participate in a wild-type activity of said protein."

Claim 27. (Previously presented) The method of claim 26 wherein said protein is selected from the group consisting of p53, p63 and p73.

Claim 28. (Previously presented) The method of claim 26 wherein said protein is p53.

Claim 29. (Previously presented) The method of claim 26 wherein said organic non-peptide compound binds to the DNA binding domain, residues 94-312, of human p53 protein.

Claim 30. (Previously presented) The method of claim 26 wherein the protein of the p53 family targeted by said organic non-peptide compound is wild-type.

Claim 31. (Previously presented) The method of claim 26 wherein the protein of the p53 family targeted by said organic non-peptide compound is a mutant encoded by an allelic variant.

Claim 32. (Previously presented) The method of claim 26, wherein the DNA binding domain of said protein comprises a missense mutation at an amino acid position selected from the group consisting of residues 143, 173, 175, 241, and 249 of p53.

Claim 33. (Previously presented) The method of claim 26 wherein steps (a) and (b) are performed sequentially.

Claim 34. (Previously presented) The method of claim 26 wherein steps (a) and (b) are performed simultaneously.

Claim 35. (Currently amended) The method of claim 26 wherein said cancer disease state is associated with possession of a mutant protein of the p53 family having one or more diminished wild-type activities, comprising the steps of:

- (a) administering to said patient an effective amount of an organic non-peptide compound that binds to one or more domains in said mutant protein under physiological conditions, and stabilizes a functional conformation of said protein; and,
- (b) permitting said stabilized protein to interact with one or macromolecules that participate in said wild-type activity.